

PATENT SPECIFICATION



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194,823

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Golf Clubs and the like.

I, JAMES HAMILTON STIRLING, British subject, of 111, St. Mary's Mansions, Paddington, W. 2, in the County of London, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention refers to improvements in or relating to golf clubs and the like, and it has for its object to provide simple and effective means whereby the weight of the head or shaft and/or the balance of the club may be varied or adjusted in a simple and effective manner.

According to the present invention I provide within the head or shaft an opening or openings in which a weight or weights may be adjusted as to position and/or quantity.

In one simple and effective manner of carrying the present invention into effect I provide within the head of the club and preferably in parallel alignment with the driving face thereof, a circular bore adapted to receive a central screwed shaft upon which are adjustably mounted a series of weights of equal or varying sizes. The said shaft may conveniently be formed at its inner end to engage in a suitable central recess or bush provided within the body of the club, and at its other end may be formed in one with, or engaged by, a screwed disc or cap screwing into the material of the club or into another bush provided therein. The weights on the screwed shaft may be themselves screwed and be locked against each other to retain them in their desired positions, or they may be loose on the shaft and held in place by one or more nuts provided at their ends. The weights may be of lead, brass, iron or other suitable or preferred metal or material as may be desired. Conveniently a spanner or adjusting tool may be provided containing projecting pegs adapted to engage peg holes in the face of the screw cap or

disc, and also a pair of claws adapted to engage the weights or the lock nuts securing them in place. By this means it is possible to adjust the weight of the head of the club, and also the disposition of same in relation to the striking face.

A similar screwed rod and adjustable weights may also be provided in an axial bore provided in the handle or shaft of the club, so that in some cases the balance of the whole club may be varied or the weight altered as desired.

In some cases instead of arranging the weights in a bore in the head of the club substantially parallel to the striking face, the bore may be arranged at an angle thereto, or it may be arranged vertically through or into the club, access thereto being obtained from the top or bottom as may be desired. In the case of a brassy the fixing cap could conveniently be made in one piece with the screwed stem and could be made to engage a flange provided on the lower brass plate, as will be readily understood. In the case of a cleek, mid-iron, mashie, niblick or putter, the weights could conveniently be arranged in the thickness thereof or in a longitudinally arranged boss or enlargement disposed behind the lower portion of the face, the bore being preferably parallel with the face and with the lower edge thereof.

In some cases, particularly suitable for use in connection with the wooden head of a driver or brassy, the whole device may be encased or enclosed in a cylindrical sleeve adapted to be fixed by suitable means into the cylindrical bore provided therein. Such fixing may conveniently be obtained by providing prongs on the inner end of the said sleeve and buttress shaped grooves around the outer surface thereof, and in practice the said sleeve would be inserted into the head

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and the prongs on the end driven into the wood of the club. In some cases also the tube itself could be radially expanded by means of a suitable tool, so as to bring
 5 the buttress shaped grooves into tight engagement with the adjacent surface of the tubular bore. The outer end would be closed by a cap screwing into the tube, as will be readily understood.
 10 It will be obvious that the above described means of adjusting the weight

or balance of golf clubs may be advantageously employed in connection with the handles of tennis rackets, cricket bats and other playing sticks.

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Dated this 23rd day of December, 1921.

J. S. WITHERS & SPOONER,
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 Staple House, 51 & 52, Chancery Lane,
 London,
 Agents for the Applicant.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Golf Clubs and the like.

I, JAMES HAMILTON STIRLING, British subject, of 111, St. Mary's Mansions, Paddington, W. 2, in the County of
 25 London, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

30 This invention relates to improvements in golf clubs, tennis and cricket bats or the like, of the kind in which the article is formed with a cavity for the reception of a stem associated with a cap, the said
 35 stem having thereon an adjustable weight or weights whereby the weight of the balance or both of the golf club or the like may be varied to suit the requirements of the user.

40 In connection with golf clubs not provided with a stem it has heretofore been proposed to provide a weight or weights within a socket having a base portion adapted to be secured within the cavity
 45 by means of a screw, and also provided with lugs to engage within recesses formed in the said cavity, the open end of the said socket being adapted to be closed by a screw cap. In this case it
 50 has been proposed to form the socket with tongues bent inwardly to engage the side of the weight or weights to hold the same in position.

According to this invention the golf
 55 club, tennis and cricket bat or the like of the kind referred to is provided with one or more screw-threaded nuts adapted to be adjusted on the stem and to engage the weight or weights to hold the same in adjusted position. The said invention
 60 also contemplates the provision of a golf club or the like comprising a threaded stem integrally formed with a threaded plug or cap; a weight or weights adapted
 65 to be positioned on the stem, one or more threaded nuts adapted to engage the weight or weights and hold the same in

position, a sleeve surrounding the said weighted stem, and threaded to receive the said plug or cap, and a base portion
 70 on the said sleeve, the base portion of the said sleeve being secured in the cavity by means of a screw or lugs or both.

The invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings which illustrate several methods of
 75 carrying it out in connection with the heads of golf clubs, and with the shafts or handles of golf clubs and tennis rackets. In said drawings.—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation, and Figure 2 is an end elevation, respectively, illustrating a suitable appli-
 80 cation of the invention to the head of a golf club;

Figures 3 and 4 are longitudinal and transverse sectional elevations showing a modified method of carrying out the invention in connection with the head of
 85 a golf club and as applied to a mid-iron;

Figure 5 is a transverse sectional elevation and Figure 6 a side elevation of a further modification relating to the head
 90 of a golf club;

Figures 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 are sectional views illustrating six other modified applications of the invention to the
 95 head of a golf club;

Figure 12 embodies plan and transverse sectional views of a modified construction
 100 of weight;

Figure 14 is a longitudinal section showing the method of applying the invention to the shaft of a golf club;

Figure 15 illustrates the invention
 105 applied to the handle of a tennis racket;

Figures 16 and 17 are axial sectional and plan views, respectively, of a detail.

Thus in one simple and effective manner of carrying the invention into
 110 effect I provide within the head *a* of the club, and preferably in parallel alignment with the driving or striking face

5 *b* thereof, as in Figures 1 to 4, a circular
 bore *c* adapted to receive a central screw-
 threaded rod *d* upon which are adjustably
 10 mounted a series of weights *e* of equal or
 varying sizes. The rod *d* may conven-
 15 iently be formed at its inner end to
 engage in a suitable central recess *f* or
 bush provided within the body of the club
 20 head *a*, and at its other end is formed
 in one with, or engaged by, a screw-
 threaded plug, disc or cap *g* which screws
 into the material of the club head or into
 25 another bush provided therein. The
 weights *e* on the screwed rod *d* may be
 themselves screw-threaded and be screwed
 up tight and locked against each other
 30 to retain them in their desired positions,
 or they may be loose on the rod and be
 held in place by one or more nuts *h* pro-
 35 vided at their ends, as in Figures 1 and
 3. The weights could be slotted to enable
 them to be slipped laterally on to the
 rod, and the rod, or the bore in the head
 40 could be formed with flats to prevent rota-
 tion of the weights. The weights *e* may
 be of lead, brass, iron or other suitable
 or preferred metal or material, as may be
 45 desired. Conveniently a spanner or
 adjusting tool may be provided contain-
 ing a screw-driver end or projecting pegs
 adapted to engage a slot *i* or peg holes
 50 in the face of the screw cap or disc *g*,
 and a pair of claws adapted to engage
 the weights *e* or the lock-nuts *h* securing
 the latter in place. A very convenient,
 55 simple and inexpensive tool would con-
 sist of a milled disc having a hexagonal
 or other shaped hole in its centre. The
 periphery of the disc could be engaged
 60 within the slot *i* for the purpose of screw-
 ing up and unscrewing the screw-cap,
 disc or plug *g*, and the nuts *h* be screwed
 into position and removed by engaging
 them in the hole of the disc. By this
 65 means it is possible to adjust the weight
 of the head *a* of the club, and also the
 disposition of the weight in relation to
 the driving or striking face *b*.

As indicated in Figure 14 a similar
 50 screw threaded rod *d*² and adjustable
 weights *e*² may also be provided in an
 axial bore *c*¹ provided in the handle or
 shaft *j* of the club, so that, in some cases,
 55 the balance of the whole club may be
 varied or the weight altered as desired.

In some cases, instead of arranging the
 weights in a bore in the head *a* of the
 club substantially parallel to the striking
 60 face *b*, the bore may be arranged at an
 angle thereto, such as at *c*² in Figures 5
 to 7, the fixing cap *g*¹ being disposed in
 said face, or the bore may be arranged
 65 vertically through or into the club as at
*c*³ in Figures 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13, access
 thereto being obtained from the top or

bottom as desired. In the case of a brassy
 the fixing cap *g*² could conveniently be
 made in one piece with the screw-threaded
 rod *d*³ and could be made to engage a
 70 flange provided on the lower brass plate,
 as will be readily understood. In the
 case of a cleek, mid-iron, mashie, niblick
 or putter, the weights could be conven-
 75 iently be arranged in the thickness
 thereof or in a longitudinally arranged
 boss or enlargement disposed behind the
 lower portion of the striking face, the
 bore being preferably parallel with the
 face and with the lower edge thereof.

In some cases, particularly suitable for
 use in connection with the wooden head of
 a driver or brassy, the whole device may
 be encased or enclosed in a cylindrical
 sleeve or cap *k* of brass or other material.
 80 Figures 5 to 11 and 13, adapted to be
 fixed by suitable means into the cylin-
 drical bore provided therein. Several
 sleeves or caps and plugs made of different
 metals could be provided and be inter-
 85 changeable for the purpose of assisting
 in adjusting the weight. Such fixing
 may conveniently be obtained by provid-
 ing screws *l*, Figures 8 and 9, prongs *m*,
 Figure 8, on the inner end of the sleeve *k*,
 90 and/or buttress shaped portions *n*, Figure
 13, around the outer surface of the latter,
 and in practice the said sleeve would be
 inserted into the head and the prongs on
 the end driven into the wood of the club.
 In some cases also the sleeve *k* itself could
 100 be radially expanded by means of a suit-
 able tool, so as to bring the buttress
 shaped grooves or portions into tight
 engagement with the adjacent surface of
 the tubular bore. The outer end of the
 105 sleeve *k* would be closed by the plug or
 cap *g*¹ or *g*² screwing into the head or
 sleeve, as will be readily understood, or
 the plug *g*¹ as shown in Figure 5 is formed
 110 in one with the sleeve *k*.

It will be obvious that the above
 described means of adjusting the weight
 or balance of golf clubs may be advan-
 115 tageously employed in connection with
 the handles of tennis rackets, cricket bats
 and the like. In Figure 15 the handle
*j*¹ of a tennis racket is centrally bored at
*c*⁴ and fitted with a screw-threaded rod *d*⁴
 carried by a plug *g*³ which screws into a
 120 sleeve *o*. The bore *c*⁴ may be of any cross-
 sectional shape, and the rod *d*⁴ can be
 rigid with the plug *g*³ or be swivelled or
 otherwise movably secured thereto. The
 weights *e* are held in place by means of
 125 end pieces *p* and nuts *h*¹, and said end
 pieces are fitted with spring fingers *q* or
 one or more spring rings to prevent lateral
 movement of the rod *d*⁴ inside the bore *c*⁴.

As indicated in Figure 7, the sleeve *k*
 may be locked within the head of the 130

club by means of a set screw *r*. One or more smaller weights may be provided on the rod as at *e*³, Figure 8. A lead or other washer such as *s* in Figure 9 may be expanded or otherwise secured in place for the purpose of providing extra weight. If desired, the or each weight may be of composite form, that is, for instance, the weight may consist of a main portion of aluminium or other comparatively light material, such as at *e*³, Figure 12, and a leaden portion *e*⁴. In Figure 12 the weight is illustrated as being of disc formation, but it may be of sector or block form; when of disc or sector form the leaden portion may be adjusted around the rod to thus dispose the main weight thereof to one side or another of the axis of said rod; when of block form the washer may be formed by a steel ring enclosing a leaden inner portion. The adjacent ends or faces of the several weights may be so shaped that they more or less interlock with one another.

I am aware that it has previously been proposed to adjust the balance of billiard cues by means of threaded weights engaging a threaded rod arranged within the butt of the cues, one end of the said rod being fixed in a cap and the other or forward end thereof being lodged in a rubber cushion pocket. It has also been proposed to employ a rod having thereon a plurality of heavy and light removable weights, the inner end of the rod being threaded to engage a threaded washer and the outer end being formed with a winged button threaded to engage a tapered ring secured in the butt end of the cue.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said inven-

tion and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A golf club or the like of the kind referred to, having one or more screw-threaded nuts adapted to be adjusted on the stem and to engage the weight or weights to hold the same in adjusted position.

2. A golf club or the like according to Claim 1, in which each weight is formed of materials of different weight, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. A golf club or the like according to Claim 1, in which each weight is slotted to enable it to be slipped laterally on to the stem.

4. A golf club or the like according to Claim 1, in which the stem having the weight or weights thereon is surrounded by a sleeve formed integral with a cap.

5. A golf club or the like of the kind referred to, comprising a threaded stem integrally formed with a threaded plug or cap, a weight or weights adapted to be positioned on the stem, one or more threaded nuts adapted to engage the weight or weights and hold the same in position, a sleeve surrounding the said weighted stem and threaded to receive the said plug or cap, and a base portion on the said sleeve, the base portion of the said sleeve being secured in the cavity by means of a screw or lugs or both.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 1922.

J. S. WITHERS & SPOONER,
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London,
Agents for the Applicant.

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FIG. 1.

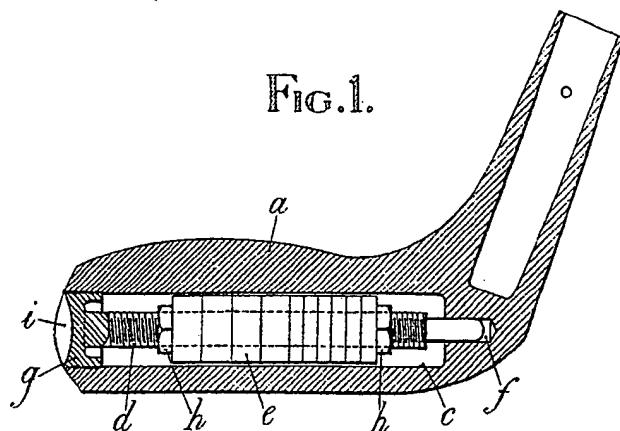


FIG. 2.

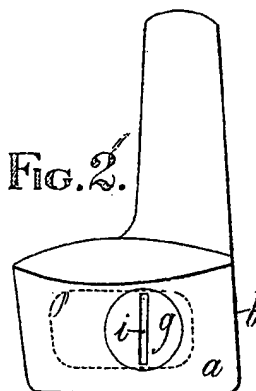


FIG. 3.

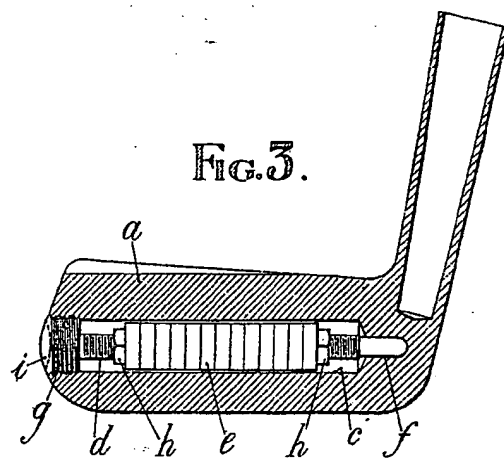


FIG. 4.

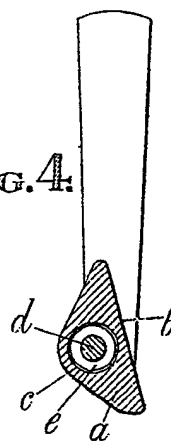


FIG. 6.

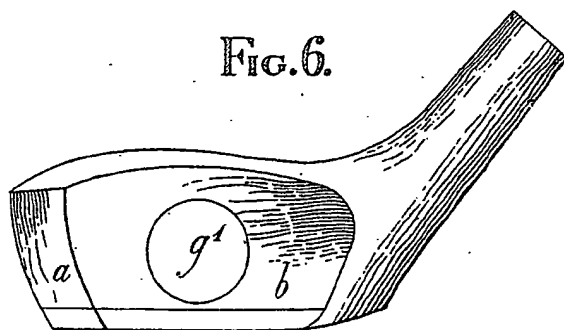
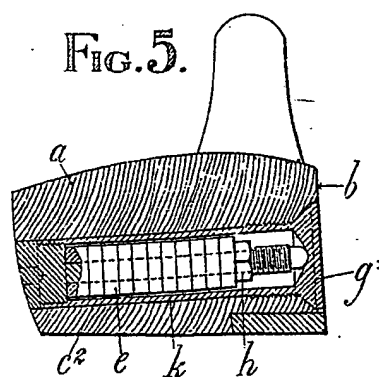
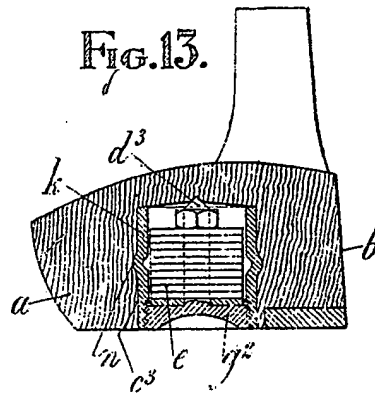
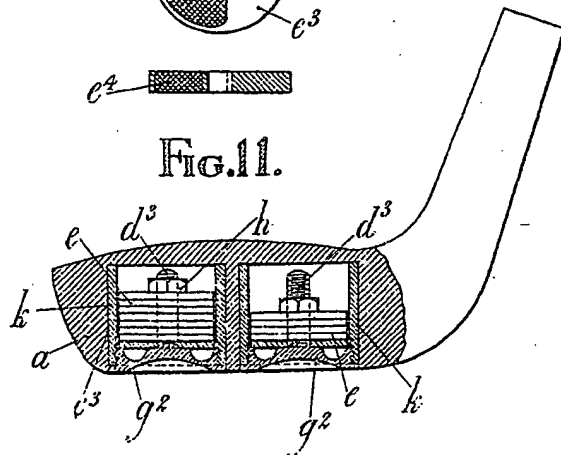
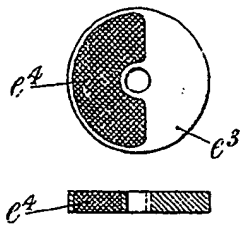
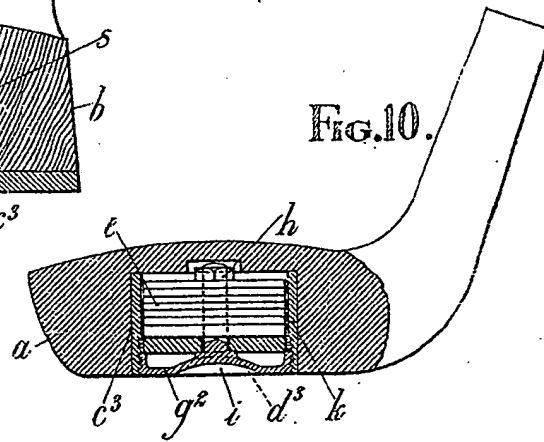
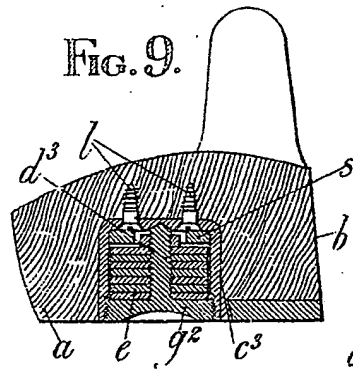
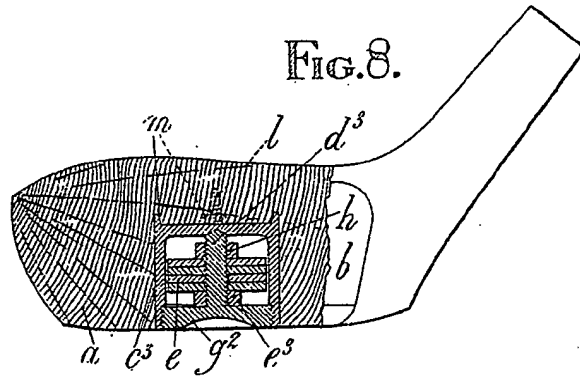
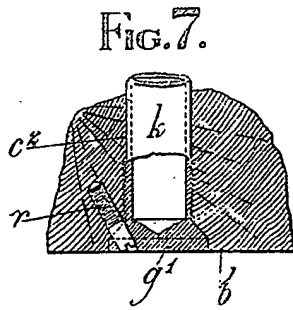


FIG. 5.





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FIG. 15.

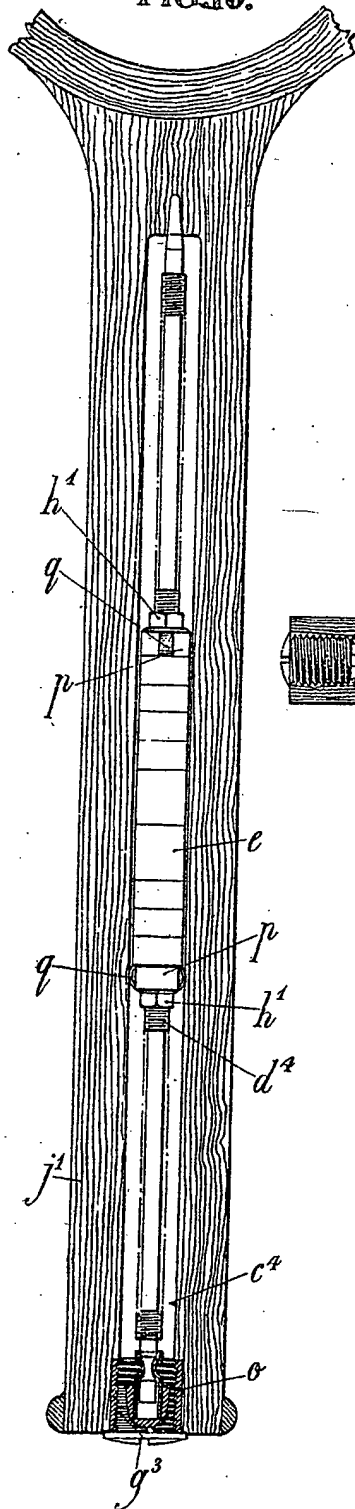


FIG. 14.

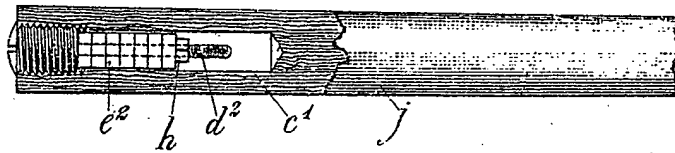


FIG. 16.

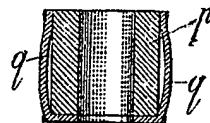
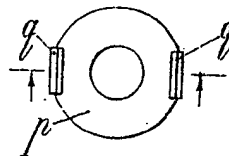


FIG. 17.



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